Power of nodal officers in environmental matters

*2457. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) in which States the nodal officers of the Department of Environment and Forests have been empowered to settle the environmental matters of the concerned States;

(b) whether the Ministry is contemplating upon any plan to seek common people's advice on matters relating to environment through website; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has designated some officers of the Ministry as nodal officers for different States for undertaking visits and discussing pending environmental and forestry matters with the concerned officers in the States for finding appropriate solutions.

(b) and (c) The draft legislations and notifications are placed on the website of the Ministry for seeking comments from the stakeholders and general public.

Conservation of Dal Lake

2458.PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN-SOZ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether conservation of Dal Lake in Kashmir is receiving any attention currently from the Ministry; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The project of 'Conservation & Management Plan for Dal-Nagin Lake in Srinagar', J&K has been sanctioned in September, 2005 for Rs. 298.76 crore under the National Lake Conservation Plan of Ministry of Environment & Forests. Works relating to various components of the project namely, sewerage system and sewage treatment plants, hydraulic works, solid waste management, catchment area treatment, dredging and de-weeding, shore-line development works, public awareness & participation, etc. are under execution by J&K Lakes & Waterways Development Authority, the State implementing agency for the project. An amount of Rs. 142.87 crore has been made available so far by Government of India to the implementing agency for the project, against which an expenditure of Rs. 131.32 crore has been incurred till end of May, 2009. Three sewage treatment plants having a treatment capacity of 15.2 mld (million litres per day) have been commissioned.

Grants to Maharashtra

2459.SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

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*Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.